

# STOP THE INVASION- REPORT THIS PEST

## ***Banana Poka***

Maui County Priority Pest for Molokai:

### **Banana Poka (*Passiflora tarminiana*)**

is an aggressive semi-woody vine in the passionfruit family that smothers trees, fences, pastures, farm land, and forests. It covers thousands of acres on Hawaii and Kauai. The fruit and seeds are dispersed by birds and pigs.

### **Identification**

**Height-** 3-4 m (12-15 ft)

**Flowers-** pendant tubular pink flowers

**Fruit-** banana-yellow oblong fruits; orange pulp and black seeds

**Leaves-** 3 deep lobes; hairy underneath and hairless on top



Flower and fruit



It is noticeable when it hangs from roadside shrubs or powerlines



Inside of fruit

**Don't mistake banana poka for these look-alikes:**



### **Passionfruit species**

#### **(*Passiflora* species):**

A variety of passionfruit types grow in Hawaii. Banana poka can be distinguished by its tubular pink flowers, and oblong yellow fruit.



Passionfruit (*Passiflora edulis*) does not have the long, tubular flower shape

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